

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The One Hundred and Ninth Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, April 18th.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair and there were present Miss I. Macdonald, Vice-President, Miss M. G. Allbutt, Miss J. C. Cowie, Miss F. M. Campbell, Miss G. Le Geyt and Miss S. H. Vian, Fellows; and Miss E. F. Eburah, Member.

Prayers having been read by the Secretary the Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

### REGRETS FOR ABSENCE.

Regrets for absence were received from Miss E. L. Macaulay and Miss H. G. Ballard.

The President reported that Miss M. Breay was also unavoidably absent owing to the sad bereavement in her family, the death of her brother-in-law, Captain T. W. Craig. The Council desired that a letter of sympathy be sent to Miss Breay and to her sister, Mrs. Craig.

### BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

As directed at the last Meeting of the Council the following letter was forwarded from the British College of Nurses to the Minister of Health in support of the opinion of the League of Sister Tutors on the Resolution passed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales concerning Lecturers and Examiners for the State Examinations:—

The British College of Nurses,  
39, Portland Place,  
London, W.1.  
April 7th, 1936.

To the Right Hon. Sir Kingsley Wood,  
Minister of Health,  
Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.1.

SIR,—At the Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses held on Saturday, March 21st, a report was received from the League of Sister Tutors, expressing their strong disapproval of the Resolution passed at the Meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales held on May 25th, 1935, which concerns Lecturers and Examiners for the State Examinations. Hitherto a group of Registered Nurses, who have at great expense qualified themselves for the responsibility of teaching in Schools of Nursing as Sister Tutors, have instructed probationers in elementary Anatomy and Physiology and taken part in examinations.

In a letter issued to the Heads of Nurse Training Schools by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales it is recommended that:—

(a) "Lectures on Anatomy and Physiology should be given by recognised Professors in Anatomy and Physiology, or by qualified Medical Practitioners who have held at least a resident post in a Hospital and that revision classes be held by Sister Tutors."

(b) "That Medical Examiners be appointed for the Oral Examinations in Anatomy and Physiology; that these Examiners should be Medical Practitioners of good standing who have held a resident or other post on the staff of a Hospital and who have had experience in teaching."

The League of Sister Tutors feels strongly that the above Resolution *vs* Preliminary Examinations will deprive them of their position, after arduous study, as teachers for which they are specially qualified, and also that to be allocated merely the duty of revision of the teaching of others will depreciate their professional status and emoluments, and deprive probationers of the expert practical elementary teaching in Anatomy and Physiology which is absolutely necessary in preparing them for the Preliminary Examina-

tion of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, for which medical practitioners cannot spare sufficient time.

My Council earnestly hopes that you will consider the opinion of the League of Sister Tutors before agreeing to what is considered to be by my Council a very serious and reactionary blow to the organisation of theoretical instruction in Schools of Nursing by nurses.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

ALICE STEWART BRYSON, Secretary.

Letter from Miss E. J. Haswell consenting to act as the representative of the British College of Nurses at the Annual Meeting and Conference of the National Council of Women to be held at Southport, June 29th to July 3rd.

Letter from Capt. F. MacCann, Chief Secretary, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, stating that he is delighted that this organisation is keenly interested in "Small Zoos and Menageries" Resolution, and that he understands it is being promoted again this year, and states:

"As Resolutions for the Annual Meeting at Southport have to be in by April 1st, even if your Organisation has not time to put its name behind the Resolution, it will still be possible for your delegate to support it later on should it reach the Agenda."

Letter to the President from Miss Susan Kemeny, Hon. Secretary, International Women's Week, Budapest, enclosing details of Programme and cost for attending the International Women's week (16 days). A leaflet concerning this trip was distributed.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from The Congress Finance Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, asking for financial help towards the expenses of the International Council of Nurses Congress to be held in London in July, 1937.

It was proposed by Miss I. Macdonald, and seconded by Miss F. M. Campbell, and agreed, to help in every way possible towards the expenses of the I.C.N. Congress to be held in London in July next year.

Letter from Miss G. E. Davies, Registrar, The General Nursing Council for England and Wales, sending, by direction of the Chairman, a copy of the Register of Nurses (1936).

Letter from Mrs. Westlake, Honolulu, asking if it is possible to obtain a Course in X-Ray and Laboratory work in England. Information forwarded to Mrs. Westlake.

Letter from Miss N. Farrant that she is unable to accept nomination to the Executive Committee of the National Council of Women of Great Britain. It was agreed that Miss I. Macdonald be nominated instead of Miss Farrant.

Letter from Miss M. I. Walker, M.B.C.N., sending a cheque for Florence Nightingale Statuette, and asking for one to be sent to her, and expressing appreciation of the picture published in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING of Lea Hurst, Derbyshire.

Letter from Miss I. G. Kitton, F.B.C.N., of thanks for book from Lending Library for study, in connection with the Course on Tuberculosis which she attended at Brompton Hospital.

Letters from Mrs. Hutton, F.B.C.N. (a) asking on behalf of a friend if it is possible for a native girl of the British West Indies to obtain training in England; (b) Letters in reply to enquiries reported.

Letter from Miss E. Foulkes Pritchard, F.B.C.N., that she has been appointed Sister-Tutor to The Grey's Hospital, Pietermaritzburg, and has therefore cancelled all her arrangements to return to England. It was agreed that a letter of congratulation be sent to Miss Pritchard as the position was recognised as of leading importance in the education of nurses in South Africa.

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